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DR. K. B. MENON :—" Have the Government realised that the sense of the House is that the Government were not strict enough in dealing with officers who had been found to be irregular, and will the Government remember that and be strict in future? "

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—" I may assure my hon. Friend that, as I have already said, this Government are very strict, particularly when lapses of this sort or other serious irregularities are noticed, and they are dealing with them as strictly and strongly as possible."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" Was there any allegation against this officer that he received illegal gratification for committing this irregularity? " 9 a.m.

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—" It has not come to my notice, Sir."

Remission of rent in Malabar.

* 271 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation that the existing provision in the Malabar Tenancy Act relating to remission of rent is inadequate to give relief to the tenants whose crops have been destroyed by general drought this year; and

(*b*) whether the Government propose to undertake any steps to allow remission of rent in cases of failure of crops due to natural calamities beyond the control of the tenants?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) No.

" (*b*) When there is failure of crops, the Revenue Officers will grant remission of assessment in deserving cases after azmoish. Under section 29-B of the Malabar Tenancy Act, whenever for any reason the whole or any part of the assessment payable in respect of any land for any period is remitted by the State Government, the landlord shall be bound to remit the whole or a proportionate part of the rent due to him from his tenant in respect of that land for that period. No separate action by the Government is therefore necessary for the remission of rent."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Section 29 of the Malabar Tenancy Act allows only abatement of rent in cases where revenue is remitted and it is known that, under the Standing Orders of the Board of Revenue, no revenue is remitted in cases of double crop lands where the second crop or one of the crops fails. Therefore, will the Government introduce legislation for the relief of the tenants in cases where one crop fails though no revenue is remitted? "

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THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The Hon. the Law Minister is busy with an Amending Bill for the Malabar Tenancy Act and it is likely that he will bring it here at any moment. So, let us await it."

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN :—" In the Amending Bill that has been circulated to us, no provision has been made to amend this particular provision. Therefore, will the Government consider the question of amending this provision? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Let the Bill be introduced. We will then know whether it contains such a provision or not."

SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR :—" Have the Government any statistics of cases filed against the tenants whose crops have failed and who are unable to pay the rent due? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" In general cases, the Board Standing Orders apply."

SRI P. PUNDARIKAKSHACHARYULU :—" What is the policy of the Government when water is not supplied to compounded double crop lands for the second crop? "

Expenditure on rent reduction in Malabar.

* 272 *Q.*—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the expenditure incurred in the special work of rent reduction in Malabar last year and this year; and

(*b*) the different categories of the personnel employed?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) Rs. 966 in 1951–52 and Rs. 2,51,446 in 1952–53.

" (*b*) 1 Rent Settlement Officer.
12 Rent Settlement Authorities.
45 Rent Settlement Tahsildars.
2 Rent Settlement Deputy Tahsildars.
119 Revenue Inspectors.
48 Upper Division clerks.
106 Lower Division clerks.
10 Steno-typists.
32 Typists.
242 Peons.
30 Masalchis.
214 Assistant Menons."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" What has been the result of incurring this heavy expenditure? "